AP US History

Chapter 14 Questions

1)  How did each side mobilize for war?

 To mobilize for war, the two sides had redefined the role of women, changed their economies to suit their needs, and their armies. The North's economy changes were trying to expand, and sell land to people for money to fund the war effort. They had also revived the National Bank, making a much more stable handling of commerce. They had also tried to produce war bonds, imposing taxes, but most of their money was loans from the citizens of the Union. The South had their funds, but they were insignificant to the North. Their total assets stolen by the Union was worth 1 million dollars. They next had tried to They had tried at first to ask for donations, then taxing the citizens and finally resorted to issuing paper money, but it had caused a major inflation since each state had their own currency. The North had to raise their armies for the war, they had asked for volunteers, had later increased their terms of service, then had to resort to drafting people, but they could escape drafting if they paid 300 dollars, or replacing them with someone else. The South had done the same as the North, later they had to draft more people, but eventually they were short on manpower, so they had to draft men as young as 17 and old as 50. The North’s women had done many of the same things as before, they set up hospitals in their home and took care of the soldiers; their help was too important for complaints to be heard. The role of women in the South had grew since before, because of the lack of employment since most of the men were off to war; a large number had worked as nurses, some as schoolteachers or government agencies. The North and the South’s mobilization were very similar to each other, perhaps because they were once a united nation.

2)  Describe life on the home front during the Civil War.

The life on the home front during the civil war was very hard for the women and children. The women and children were left home alone while the men went off to war. It was especially hard for the women in the family. The home front was short on supplies and resources. The women would have to take over the roles or jobs that the men once had like being a teacher or a store clerk or office workers etc. The home front for the south was especially bad because the planters and the plantations were cut off from trading in the north which they heavily depended on and it caused economic problems. The women would do their regular chores except that they had free time to help out in the war with uniforms and to help the wounded. Southern women had harder times and became spies and had to improvise a lot because of the things that union soldiers destroyed.

3)  What were the reasons that the North was victorious?

-         The southern economy was devastated because of the war. It relied almost completely on agriculture and the exportation of their crops, and it did not grow enough food for its own needs.

-         The North had managed to separate the South in half, weakening the power of the South and cutting them off from each other.

- The South was divided, they acted like separate forces causing a lack of true unity to fight the North

- The South had an ineffective form of currency, where their money was useless and caused a devastating inflation.

-         The south had an inadequate railroad system, so the north had superior mobility.

-         The north had the most Abraham Lincoln, the most important commander. He had a good grasp of strategy.

-         Stonewall Jackson was killed

-         The North also had a superior navy compared to the South which blocked the South from gaining additional supplies from other nations.

-         After the Battle of Vicksburg, the Mississippi regions were captured.

-         The north has the number and material advantage. The population in the north was much larger. They could manufacture all their own war materials. The south, in contrast, had almost no industry and had to rely on imports from Europe throughout the war.